## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 CAIRO 01257 221158Z ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W

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FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 901

SECRET CAIRO 1257

STADIS

**EXDIS** 

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY ATHERTON FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID EAGR US EG

SUBJECT: INCREASE TO FY 77 PL-480 TITLE I PROGRAM

REF: STATE 14535

1. I WAS IN THE PROCESS OF WRITING A MESSAGE ON REF SUBJECT WHEN YOUR TELEGRAM ARRIVED. AFTER TRAUMATIC EVENTS OF PAST WEEK, I BELIEVE SADAT REGIME NEEDS SOME PUBLIC EFFORT ON OUR PART TO SHOW SUPPORT. ALTHOUGH OUR APPROVED PL-480 TITLE I INCREASE IS MODEST, I BELIEVE IT WOULD HELP SADAT IF WE COULD IN NEXT WEEK OR SO SIGN AMENDMENT. IT SHOULD NOT TAKE US MORE THAN DAY OR SO TO NEGOTIATE. IF OUR BUREAUCRACY SIMPLY CANNOT GEAR ITSELF UP TO MOVING FAST IN A SERIOUS SITUATION, AN EARLY ANNOUNCEMENT IS AN ACCEPTABLE SECOND BEST. SUCH QUICK ACTION ON OUR PART WOULD ALSO BE HELPFUL TO USG IMAGE IN EGYPT AT THIS PARTICULAR MOMENT WHEN EGYPTIAN PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY, PRESS AND OTHERS ARE CALLING UPON FRIENDLY DONORS TO PROVIDE NEEDED SUPPORT IN THE INTEREST OF MAINTAINING POLITICAL STABILITY.

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- 2. I FRANKLY FIND IT UNCONSCIONABLE THAT OUR INTERGOVERN-MENTAL BUREAUCRACY SHOULD HAVE TO TAKE FOUR WEEKS TO GET SOMETHING LIKE THIS UNDERWAY. FOR MAXIMUM POLITICAL IMPACT AND TO ACHIEVE OUR POLITICAL PURPOSES, WE SHOULD ACT QUICKLY.
- 3. I AM NOT ENTIRELY SURE WHAT IS MEANT BY RELATING THE NEW AID TO EGYPTIAN REFORM EFFORTS. THERE SHOULD CERTAINLY BE NO

SUGGESTION OF ANY CONDITION. TO USE FOOD FOR POLITICAL LEVERAGE WILL BOOMERANG ON US AT ANY TIME, BUT EVEN MORE SO NOW. IN OUR ANNOUNCEMENT WE COULD, OF COURSE, MAKE SOME GENERAL STATEMENT TO THE EFFECT THAT THIS ADDITIONAL AID IS BEING PROVIDED IN SUPPORT OF GOE'S COURAGEOUS EFFORTS TO RESOLVE ITS DIFFICULT ECONOMIC PROBLEMS.

4. I HAVE REPORTED SEPARATELY TO THE SECRETARY A NEW REQUEST BY FAHMY FOR \$500 MILLION CIP ALLOCATION FOR FOODSTUFFS ALONG WITH MY RECOMMENDATION THAT WE CONSIDER GOING ALONG WITH THIS REQUEST. SINCE I ASSUME THAT, WITH BEST WILL IN WORLD, IT WILL TAKE A LITTLE TIME TO LLOK INTO THIS, IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF I COULD INFORM FAHMY AND OTHERS OF ABOVE ADDITIONAL PL-480 TITLE I ALLOCATION EVEN BEFORE STATESIDE MECHANICS ARE FULLY WORKED OUT. AMOUNT IS MODEST AND WILL HAVE LIMITED IMPACT, BUT ACCOMPANIED BY STATMENT WE ARE STUDYING BROADER REQUEST, IT WOULD STILL HAVE SOME VALUE IN PRESENT SITUATION.

**EILTS** 

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## Message Attributes

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